GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2297
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2007
FUNDS FOR LOCAL BODIES AND PANCHAYATS
Khan Shri Sunil;Surendran Shri Chengara

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the details of functions assigned to the Panchayats and the States which have entered into MoUs with the Union Government in this regard;

(b) whether the Union Government has allocated funds for local bodies and Panchayati Raj Institutions for capacity building, technology upgradation and training at all levels for elected representatives for which MoU was signed between the Union Government and certain State Governments;

(c) if so, the funds allocated for the purpose during the last three years and the current year, State-wise and year-wise;

(d) whether the State Government of Kerala has sought more held from the Union Government for expediting the decentralization process; and

(e) if so, the details thereof including the present status of the matter?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a): The Union Government has signed Joint Statements of conclusions with 22 State Governments and Union Territories (UTs). These Joint Statements chalk out the State specific road map for progressing toward the effective implementation of Panchayati Raj in the States and Union Territories in conformity with the letter and spirit of Part IX of the Constitution, read with Article 243 ZD and the Eleventh Schedule. A statement showing the details of functions assigned to Panchayats in these States/UTs is given at Annexe-I.

(b) & (c): Details of fund released to the States and UTs, including States and UTs with whom Joint Statements of Conclusions have been signed, after the formation of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj in May 2004, for capacity building, technology upgradation and training for elected representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions(PRIs) are given at Annexe-II.

(d) & (e): The Government of Kerala have sought financial assistance from the Planning Commission to set up District Planning Committee Offices and requested the Ministry of Panchayati Raj to support the proposal. The Ministry has extended its support and the matter has been referred to the Planning Commission.